

"Opportunity Funding"

Opportunity Funds, provided by the U.S.

Department of State Bureau of Educational and
Cultural Affairs, supports talented international
students with the application process to
undergraduate degrees at U.S. universities.

Opportunity provides funds to talented international

students who are highly competitive for full financial aid but who do not have the financial means to apply to universities in the US. Opportunity only covers the costs associated with the application process to Undergraduate degree programs at accredited universities in the U.S. and offers no guarantee of acceptance or financial aid awards at U.S. institutions.

Eligibility

To be eligible for Opportunity funding in Argentina, a student must:

- be a citizen of Argentina and currently enrolled in their final year of high school with expected graduation date December 2015;
- complete an Intensive Application Workshop and work closely with an EducationUSA Adviser throughout the application process;
- apply to Undergraduate degree programs at accredited universities in the U.S. that offer sufficient financial aid to meet the student's need;
- demonstrate that they and their family are not able to pay for the application process.
- Note: U.S. citizens and permanent residents, employees and immediate family of employees
 of EducationUSA Advising Centers, or a U.S. Embassy/Consulate are not eligible for
 Opportunity funding. If you have started university in Argentina you are not eligible for
 Opportunity funding.

Opportunity Application Process

- Contact EducationUSA (<u>advising@fulbright.com.ar</u>) to express your interest in the program and to determine your eligibility.
- Complete online application form (http://goo.gl/forms/9uBPpey3jR) prior to 01 April 2015.
- If you are preselected you will be contacted for an interview either in person in Buenos Aires or by phone.
- After the interview your application will be sent to the review committee for a final decision.

Deadline is 01 April 2015

- Opportunity funding is approved in two phases: (1) assistance for the application process (testing, application fees, etc.), and (2) assistance to begin studies (SEVIS/visa fees, travel to U.S., settling in, etc.)
- All information is confidential and is reviewed only to determine the applicant's financial need and eligibility.

The EducationUSA Adviser reviews each Opportunity application to verify that it is complete and accurate and that the student meets all eligibility requirements. You will be asked to submit any missing information or to verify inaccurate or incomplete information. Advisers themselves do NOT participate in the selection process.

Complete applications are sent by EducationUSA Advisers to a Selection Committee of experts at the U.S. Embassy for evaluation. The experts are selected according to their expertise in the U.S. education system and experience teaching and advising undergraduate and graduate students. The Selection Committee evaluates each nomination individually based on demonstrated financial need, prior academic achievements, potential for admission with financial aid to a U.S. higher education institution, and leadership. The Selection Committee supports equal opportunity for all without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, geographical region, or academic discipline.

The Selection Committee invites nominees who otherwise would not be able to pay for their application process and who show strong test scores and positive recommendations on their evaluations to apply for Opportunity funding. Finalists are required to notify their EducationUSA

Adviser of any and all offers (or rejections) of admission and financial aid from U.S. universities. Nominees who are not selected for funding will receive letters notifying them of their status.

Funding

Opportunity funding may cover up-front expenses including, but not limited to:

- testing fees and transportation to testing sites located far from the student's home;
- application fees for U.S. institutions;
- U.S. visa fees, including transportation for the purpose of a visa interview if the U.S. Consulate is located far from student's home;
- SEVIS fees;
- transportation to the U.S. institution where the student will study;
- one-time settling-in allowance to help cover the initial costs of living in the U.S.

All decisions are made on a case-by-case basis. Funding for selected grantees is at the discretion of the U.S. Embassy and may be discontinued at any time if the student does not meet his/her responsibilities (e.g., meeting test and application deadlines).

Opportunity funding is provided by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is administered by American Councils for International Education. All payments are made directly to the organizations and institutions.

EducationUSA Advising Centers promote U.S. higher education around the world by offering accurate, comprehensive and current information about educational opportunities in the United States and guidance to qualified individuals on how best to access those opportunities.

Any questions should be directed to an EducationUSA Adviser.

advising@fulbright.com.ar www.EducationUSA.state.gov